

Date: 11/18

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Approved For Release 2003/08/11 : CIA-RDP82-00457R005100450012-7

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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5. Directives for better training and supervision of locomotive personnel.

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comment:

These points are commented upon as follows:

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Although the term "SMA-Reserve" has not been used, this time, the 430 locomotives mentioned in para 3a are a purely Soviet affair. This becomes very clear from the paragraphs on the right of disposing of these locomotives

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This year the reserve demanded is 35 percent higher than last year, when 320 locomotives had to be kept in reserve.

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Also, the locomotive reserve to be kept available for the German railroad authorities is 20 percent higher than last year (100 locomotives).

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With regard to the critical shortage of locomotives, the ordered formation of a total reserve of 550 locomotives, about 15 percent of the total stock of serviceable locomotives, will be a severe strain on German railroad authorities. These locomotives will be withdrawn from operation. Previous experience has shown that they will seldom be released and then only for short periods and on special request.

All other measures laid down in the order (points 1 through 5 of this comment) are makeshift measures which will have little effect and will never be able to compensate for the great drain caused by the creation of so substantial a locomotive reserve. The result of the repair work on heavily damaged locomotives (point 2 of comment) will be negligible, since most of these locomotives have been cannibalized for years in order to obtain spare parts for the maintenance of operating locomotives. The critical shortage of spare parts has not been overcome, a fact which will also contribute to making the entire campaign a failure.

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